Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended)   A method for processing speech audio in a network connected client device comprising:

o   selecting a speech grammar for use in a speech recognition system in the network connected client device;

characterizing the selected speech grammar, ~~said characterizing~~ based upon at least a size of said selected grammar and whether real-time feedback is required in said speech recognition system; and,

based on the <u>characterization</u> ~~characterizing~~ of the selected speech grammar and a processing power of the network connected client device, determining whether to process the <u>entire</u> selected speech grammar locally in the network connected client device, or remotely in a speech server in the network <u>before processing the speech audio</u>,

whereby the <u>entire</u> selected grammar is processed locally in a low processing power network connected device if the selected grammar is at least one of a small size grammar and a grammar requiring real-time feedback.

2.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the selecting step comprises:

establishing a communications session with a speech server; and,

querying said speech server for a speech grammar over said established communications session.

3.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein the selecting step comprises:

     establishing a communications session with a speech server;

     selecting a speech grammar stored in the network connected device; and,

     uploading the selected speech grammar to the speech server.

4.   (Original)   The method of claim 2, wherein said selecting step further comprises:

     registering said speech grammar in said speech recognition system.

5.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein said characterizing step comprises:

     determining a size of said selected speech grammar and determining whether said selected speech grammar requires real-time feedback.

6.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein said characterizing step comprises:

     identifying in said selected speech grammar an embedded pre-determined characterization.

7.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 6, wherein said pre-determined characterization specifies at least one of a size of said selected speech grammar and a feedback requirement of said selected speech grammar.

8.   (Original)   The method of claim 6, wherein said pre-determined characterization specifies a pre-determined preference for processing said speech grammar either locally or remotely.

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9.   (Original)   The method of claim 8, wherein said pre-determined characterization further specifies a location of a server for remotely processing said speech grammar.

10.   (Currently Amended)   A network distributable speech grammar configured for distribution to a network connected client device ~~devices~~ or a speech server in the network before processing speech audio, comprising:

a speech grammar; and,

a pre-determined characterization of said speech grammar embedded in said speech grammar, said pre-determined characterization specifying a pre-determined preference for processing said speech grammar in its entirety either locally in the network connected client devices or remotely in the speech server, wherein said pre-determined preference is based upon at least a size of said speech grammar, whether real-time feedback is required in a speech recognition system, and a processing power of a network connected client device,

whereby the speech grammar is processed locally in a low processing power network connected device if the speech grammar is at least one of a small size grammar and a grammar requiring real-time feedback.

11-12. (Cancelled)

13.   (Previously Presented)   The network distributable speech grammar of claim 10, wherein said pre-determined preference further specifies a location of a server for remotely processing said speech grammar.

14.   (Currently Amended)   A machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for processing speech audio in a network connected client device, said

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computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

selecting a speech grammar for use in a speech recognition system in the network connected client device;

characterizing the selected speech grammar, said characterization based upon at least a size of said selected grammar and whether real-time feedback is required in said speech recognition system; and,

based on the characterization of the selected speech grammar and a processing power of a network connected client device, determining whether to process the <u>entire</u> selected speech grammar locally in the network connected client device, or remotely in a speech server in the network <u>before processing the speech audio,</u>

whereby the <u>entire</u> selected grammar is processed locally in a low processing power network connected device if the selected grammar is at least one of a small size grammar and a grammar requiring real-time feedback.

15.   (Original)   The machine readable storage of claim 14, wherein the selecting step comprises:

establishing a communications session with a speech server; and,

querying said speech server for a speech grammar over said established communications session.

16.   (Previously Presented)   The machine readable storage of claim 14, wherein the selecting step comprises:

establishing a communications session with a speech server;

selecting a speech grammar stored in the network connected device; and,

uploading the selected speech grammar to the speech server.

17.   (Original)   The machine readable storage of claim 15, wherein said selecting step further comprises:

registering said speech grammar in said speech recognition system.

18.   (Previously Presented)   The machine readable storage of claim 15, wherein said characterizing step comprises:

determining a size of said selected speech grammar and determining whether said selected speech grammar requires real-time feedback.

19.   (Previously Presented)   The machine readable storage of claim 15, wherein said characterizing step comprises:

identifying in said selected speech grammar an embedded pre-determined characterization.

20.   (Previously Presented)   The machine readable storage of claim 19, wherein said pre-determined characterization specifies at least one of a size of said selected speech grammar and a feedback requirement of said selected speech grammar.

21.   (Original)   The machine readable storage of claim 19, wherein said pre-determined characterization specifies a pre-determined preference for processing said speech grammar either locally or remotely.

22.   (Original)   The machine readable storage of claim 21, wherein said pre-determined characterization further specifies a location of a server for remotely processing said speech grammar.

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23.   (Currently Amended)   A method for processing speech audio in a network connected client device comprising:

selecting a speech grammar for use in a speech recognition system in the network connected client device;

characterizing the selected speech grammar, ~~the characterizing~~ based upon a pre-determined characterization specifying at least of a size of said selected speech grammar and whether real-time feedback is required;

determining a processing capability of the network connected client device; and,

processing the <u>entire</u> speech grammar locally in a low processing capability network connected device if the selected grammar is at least one of a small size grammar and a grammar requiring real-time feedback.

24.   (Currently Amended)   A method for processing speech audio in a network connected client device comprising:

selecting a speech grammar for use in a speech recognition system in the network connected client device;

identifying a processing preference based upon a predetermined characterization embedded in said in the speech grammar, said predetermined characterization specifying a predetermined complexity of the speech grammar relative to processing resources of the network connected client device, wherein said complexity is based on at least one of a size of the selected grammar and whether real-time feedback is required; and,

determining<u>, before processing speech audio,</u> whether to process the <u>entire</u> speech grammar locally in the network connected client device or remotely in a speech server in the network based on the predetermined preference specified by the predetermined characterization and a processing power of the network connected client device,

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whereby the <u>entire</u> selected grammar is processed locally in a low processing power network connected device if the selected grammar is at least one of a small size grammar and a grammar requiring real-time feedback.

25.   (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 24, wherein the processing preference specifies a location of the speech server for remotely processing the speech grammar.